

Claims

What is claimed is:

1. The composition of *Epimedium* extracts comprise flavones and polysaccharides in ratios varied from 2:8 to 8:2 by weight which are used in treatment of prostatic hyperplasia. Total flavones of the extracts are in the range of 20-90% and the molecular weights of extracted polysaccharides vary from 1,000 to 700,000 Daltons.
2. The composition of claim 1 wherein the ratios of flavones and polysaccharides are about 3:7 to 6:4 by weight of the composition. Total flavones comprise 10-90% of icariin and icariin I, and the molecular weights of extracted polysaccharides vary from 45,000 to 620,000 Daltons.
3. A method comprises *Epimedium* herb extraction to prepare claim 1 or 2 is as follows:

Extract sufficient quantity of *Epimedium* herb with 60-95% organic solvent. Recover the organic solvent from the filtrate. Add onto the Absorptive Resin (D₁₀₁ or D₁₄₀) Column, and then wash the column with water. Elute the column with 30-85% ethanol and recover the eluent by suction filtration. Collect all the eluent and evaporate to dryness. Total flavones in the residue are about 20-90%.

Decoct the *Epimedium* residue with water and concentrate the aqueous solution. Adjust with a quantity of ethanol to a content of 70-85% and stand still for a while. Filter to obtain the crude polysaccharides.

Dissolve the polysaccharides in water and add chloroform n-butanol mixture (3-6:1) to precipitate protein debris. Remove any polysaccharides below 1000 Daltons by ultra filtration. Concentrate the aqueous extract to dryness and obtain polysaccharides of molecular weight 1,000 to 700,000 Daltons.

Mix the extracted *Epimedium* flavones and polysaccharides to obtain combinations in ratios from 2:8 to 8:2 by weight of composition.

4. The method of claim 3 wherein the extract comprises *Epimedium* flavones and polysaccharides in ratios from 3:7 to 6:4 by weight of composition. The 60-95% organic solvent used in the extraction process contains ethanol, propanone, isopropyl alcohol and / or methanol.
5. The composition of claim 4 wherein the total flavones of extract comprises 10-90% icariin and icariin I. Following the *Epimedium* polysaccharides extraction protocol, the crude polysaccharides is redissolved in water. Add sufficient quantity of ethanol to make up the final concentration of 70-85%. Stand still for a while and harvest the refined polysaccharides by filtration. The

- molecular weight of polysaccharides lies within 45,000 to 620,000 Daltons.
6. The composition of claim 5 wherein the combinations of flavones polysaccharides mixtures are in ratio of 3:7, 4:6, 5:5, 6:4 or 7:3. These combinations can be used alone or with any pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle/ excipients.
 7. A pharmaceutical composition used in treatment of prostatic hyperplasia and prostatitis, characterized in that the pharmaceutical composition comprises Radix Ginseng, pollens, Radix Astragali, Cortex Phellodendri, *Epimedium* flavones and/ or *Epimedium* polysaccharides.
 8. The composition of claim 7 comprises:
 - a. 1-6 portion by weight of ginseng extract containing 6-10% ginsenoside;
 - b. 1-8 portion by weight of pollen/ pollen extract containing 10-20% flavones;
 - c. 1-4 portion by weight of radix astragali extract containing 3-5% astragaloside and 20-30% polysaccharides;
 - d. 1-6 portion by weight of cortex phellodendri extract containing 10-15% berberine;
 - e. 4-16 portion by weight of *Epimedium* flavones containing 20-90% flavones and / or *Epimedium* polysaccharides
 9. The composition of claim 8 wherein comprises by weight: 1-2 portion of ginseng extract, 2-4 portions of pollen or pollen extract, 1-2 portion of radix astragali extract, 1-2 portion of cortex phellodendri extract and 5-10 portions of *Epimedium* flavones and / or *Epimedium* polysaccharides.
 10. The formulations of claim 7-9 can be mixed with any pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle/ excipients to formulate various preparations in different dosage forms.